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|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                               | 10/610,970             | DINAN ET AL.        |  |
|                               | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                               | A. Dexter Tugbang      | 3729                |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on April 14, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>4/3/06</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                             | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. The applicant(s) amendment filed on April 14, 2006 has been fully considered and made of record.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. The applicant(s) arguments, see pages 8-9 of the response filed on April 14, 2006, with respect to the feature of “electroplating...material” (lines 8-10 of Claim 11) have been fully considered and are persuasive. The previous rejections with respect to Chang et al and Sasaki, have been withdrawn.

The examiner further notes that while Chang et al was relied upon for the feature of electroplating a P2 pole tip, and that the P2 pole tip has a width (col. 14, lines 10-27), Chang is silent as to what dimensions are used in the actual thickness of the seed layer material (e.g. 366) and the actual thickness of the electroplated material. Thus, no corresponding relationship can be made between the width of the P2 pole tip and the thickness of the seed layer material and the thickness of the electroplated material. So Chang cannot meet the limitations of “electroplating...material” (lines 8-10 of Claim 11).

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

3. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance.

The prior art does not teach all of the limitations of the claimed invention including fabricating a seed layer upon a sidewall of a block of material, then subsequently electroplating

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P2 pole tip material upon the seed layer, whereby a P2 pole top is formed having a width W that is comprised of a thickness of the seed layer material and a thickness of the electroplated material.

The newly cited reference to Ohtsuka et al (U. S. Patent 5,774,308) will now be discussed. Ohtsuka teaches plating a P2 pole tip material 26a (in Fig. 5B) and then subsequently forming a seed layer (e.g. 26b) where the width W of the P2 pole tip is comprised of a thickness of the seed layer 26b and a thickness of the P2 pole tip material (shown in Fig. 5D). However, Ohtsuka does not teach that the P2 pole tip material is specifically electroplated. Moreover, Ohtsuka teaches the reverse order of steps by first forming the P2 pole tip material and then subsequently forming the seed layer. Claim 11 requires forming a seed layer and then subsequently electroplating P2 pole tip material. Therefore, Ohtsuka simply cannot meet the limitations of “forming a seed layer...electroplated material” (lines 7-10 of Claim 11).

Accordingly, Claims 11-19 are allowed.

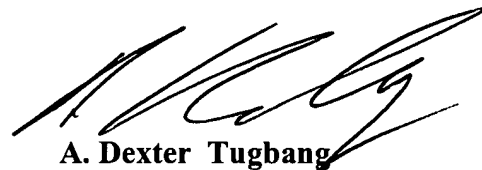
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to A. Dexter Tugbang whose telephone number is 571-272-4570. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



**A. Dexter Tugbang**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**Art Unit 3729**

June 21, 2006